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MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association opened Wednesday evening, September 24, with a banquet at the Men's Union of the University, at which two hundred and four members and guests were present, among them Dr. James K. Hosmer and Mr. Warren Upham, former presidents of the association. The speaker of the occasion was Mr. David Bryn-Jones of Carleton College and Trinity Baptist Church, Minneapolis. Mr. Bryn-Jones had chosen for his subject,

The Ideals of Adult Education.

He said in part: "The problem of adult education is the most important problem of our time. That may seem a sweeping assertion. We are face to face with im-

mense problems, problems of industrial progress, social welfare and political progress. Besides every one of these problems there is one which is more fundamental—the problem of education. The best form of government will certainly in some measure fail unless it is inspired by an enlightened general will. Democracy will not bring happiness if it is not permeated by the right spirit and inspired by true ideals. Just at present democracy is on its trial. There has been reaction against it in the post-war period. In the majority of countries, however, the people have greater political power than ever before. Are they using it?

That question brings us face to face with another. Political wisdom does not come by chance. It may come to individuals through an endowment of talent, but to

the vast majority political wisdom comes only through training, enlightenment and knowledge.

Political power is only one form of power which men and women are gaining and securing today. The demand for the democratization of industry is growing in some measure. The demand is tending to success. When it does, what then? The conclusion is inevitable. Somehow the great masses of men and women must be given access to that accumulated wisdom of the ages which Edmund Burke praised with such enthusiasm. Somehow the masses must be given fuller opportunities for exercising their minds upon the fundamental problems of life. To give the masses power and to deny them knowledge is to give them shadow and to deny the substance. There can be no true democracy if the keys of knowledge are withheld—A true democracy is a democracy that knows the facts and that has learned to argue from the facts. It is a democracy that has developed a capacity for creativeness and a particularly sound discriminating judgment. It is important to get out the vote, and I appreciate all that is being done to achieve that end. But what if the vote, when it is brought out is unintelligent and uncritical? The task before the women of America is bigger than that of getting out the vote.

So far I have dwelt upon the power that education gives and what education is. I have not touched upon the other side of the question—our responsibilities. Just think of the problems which confront us today, the problems which have been discussed during these last few years. They are nearly all problems which have a world significance. The decisions come to by America exercise an influence upon life everywhere.

But of course education is a much bigger concern than a training for specific tasks, even tasks as important as these. Education is an end in itself. It is the culture of the human spirit. Unfortunately throughout the 19th century education has been regarded very widely as a means to an end, sometimes to ends not very noble. There are people still, I suppose, who think of education as primarily a training for the task of making a living. That point of view is one of vicious inheritance which came to us through the

materialism that characterized the development of our industrial civilization.

I need hardly tell you that that is not the way that the world's greatest thinkers have thought of education. It is not in that way that Plato conceived of education. For him education meant the turning of the soul from illusion to the relation in which alone the human spirit can find true satisfaction. And in general all the greatest educators have conceived of education in some such way. It is an enrichment of life. It is bringing the human spirit into right relationship, that those things which are real will unite beauty and truth.

If a man becomes a lover of poetry, if he has learned with Wordsworth to look into the heart of things, seeing in nature a phase that fills him with the joy of elevated thought, or if with Shakespeare he has learned to find the way through the labyrinths of complex human motives; all these may not add one penny to a man's earning capacity; they may not create efficiency. What does that matter? The world is not a market and man is not a mere dealer in things. Life is a matter of quickening pulses, of generous responses, of vital enthusiasms, of great ideals, and these are to be found in art and in literature and in music and in science.

Education is the gate-way to the world of reality and it is of that gate-way that librarians and teachers hold the keys. If the librarian can introduce a human mind to the great master minds, if the librarian can touch the springs of curiosity and start the inquiring mind upon its quest for truth, what greater achievement can there be than that?

In regard to adult education, what can the librarian in particular do? Many things, but chief amongst them this; in an age that ever tends to be materialistic, the librarian with the teachers and artists can maintain the emphasis upon the things of the spirit, in an age when economic necessity tends to dominate our thoughts the librarian can be a witness to the reality of things—things that are found in the world of thought and aspiration."

The evening was concluded with the inspection of the new library building and a reception by the Twin City Library Club.

Thursday morning began with a business session at which the President, Mr. Wheelock, presided. The following members were appointed on the Resolutions Committee: Miss Krausnick, Miss Martin and Miss Sewall. As these were unable to serve, the final committee was made up of Miss W. E. Carothers, Mrs. Jennie T. Jennings and Miss Clara Baldwin.

The nominating committee was composed of Miss Harriet Dutcher, Mrs. J. L. Blanchard, and Miss Helen Starr.

The first committee to report was that on

Agricultural Reading

of which Miss Maud van Buren of Owatonna was chairman. She reported as follows:

"Your committee on Agricultural Reading met at the Library of the College of Agriculture on May 5, 1924. It was suggested that as bibliographies of technical and scientific books were issued by U. S., State, and other agencies, duplication should be avoided. A few outstanding practical or technical books might be included and attention called to the fact that public libraries everywhere have the essential books on all subjects. It was the opinion of the committee that cultural reading and entertainment should form the basis of its list, a general bibliography of worthwhile yet popular books, books to inspire further reading, books for reading aloud to family groups (youth and adults), books easily available in county collections; 250 or 300 titles, unclassified, and that if possible these should be issued by the Department of Agriculture for free distribution by the state department, county libraries, farm bureaus, etc., the object of such a list being, primarily, to establish a connecting link between the farm and the library, to acquaint rural residents with the delights that county service can give, and to unfold to them a larger field of reading.

In the preparation of this list, Miss Sewall and Mrs. Hughes were responsible for Science, Useful Arts and Fine Arts; Miss Estes, Fiction and Literature; Miss Field, Religion, Ethics, Sociology, Child Training; Miss van Buren, History, Biography, Travel. If printing space allows, a brief annotation will be added to each title.

All lists were submitted to the chairman early in September, a second meeting

of the committee was held on the 24th, when the necessary cutting was made and the final draft submitted.

Mr. Balmer of the Department of Agriculture was called in for consultation at the first meeting and gave helpful suggestions as well as encouragement for the printing of the list by his department."

At the conclusion of this report, Miss Baldwin made the motion, seconded by Miss Tawney that the list of books compiled by the committee be submitted to Mr. Balmer for printing by the Agricultural Department. This was carried.

The Report of the Certification Committee

was made by Miss Baldwin, the chairman, as follows:

"No further action has been taken by the Certification Committee toward establishing any scheme of certification in Minnesota either officially or unofficially, as it is the opinion of the committee that the advancement of professional library interests in the state can best be furthered in other ways.

The creation of the new Board of Education for Librarianship by the Council of the American Library Association marks a great step forward in the advancement of the library profession generally, and Minnesota will profit by its activities. The duties of this board are to investigate the entire field of library training and to formulate and recommend standards for library schools and other training agencies. At the first meeting held in Chicago September 4th and 5th, there was discussion of the widespread need for trained librarians which the library schools are at present incapable of supplying in sufficient number. There is need for more library schools and for the expansion of those already existing. This need had been acutely felt in a number of Minnesota libraries during the past year and the Committee urgently recommends that the Minnesota Library Association continue its efforts toward the establishment of regular library courses in the University of Minnesota. The courses now offered in the summer session are a step in the right direction, but there is urgent need for courses to be given as part of the regular year's curriculum, for which the new library building provides excellent

quarters. With the growth and specialization of library service in the Twin Cities, an unusual practice field is afforded and a library school of high rank should be developed.

A request has come from certain full-time school librarians that the question of certification of school librarians should be acted upon by this association. At the present time "certified librarians" are included in the definition of teacher in the act of 1915 providing for teachers' pensions. But since there is no provision in the law for certifying librarians, the attorney-general has held that school librarians, who are not teachers, do not come within the purview of the statute and are not subject to assessment thereunder.

The committee therefore recommends that Section 2863 of the General Statutes of Minnesota, 1913, referring to **Special Certificates** be amended so as to include school librarians, and that this recommendation, if approved by the association, be presented to the State Board of Education. This will not fix any standards by law, but will simply authorize the state board of education to issue certificates authorizing the holders to serve as school librarians, thus making it possible for school librarians to be included in the state pension.

In view of the appointment by the A. L. A. of the Board of Education for librarianship, the committee recommends that it be discontinued, as it believes that its purpose of a higher standard for librarianship can best be accomplished through other agencies.

The report was accepted.

The Legislative Committee

through its chairman, Miss Countryman, made the following report which was accepted:

According to the recommendation of the Certification Committee, the Legislative Committee recommends that Section 2862 of the General Statutes of Minnesota, 1913, be amended so as to include school librarians. This will not fix any standards by law, but will simply authorize the State Board of Education to issue certificates authorizing the holders to serve as school librarians, thus making it possible for school librarians to be included in the state pension.

We recommend also that some legislation be passed requiring that all reports published by State Departments or Institutions be distributed regularly to public and school libraries or other agencies interested in public information through the Document clerk or other agency.

The Publicity Committee

through Miss Hickman, its chairman, reported that it found itself greatly hampered in attempting to accomplish anything by a lack of funds to cover any printing or even postage, and suggested either that the dues be raised from fifty cents to a dollar, or that a campaign be carried on to enlist all of the possible 590 members so that committees might have funds wherewith to work.

The discussion of this was postponed till Friday afternoon.

The Committee on State Documents

reported as follows:

The work of the documents committee for the past year has been accomplished by Miss Krausnick of the Historical Library in printing the Monthly Checklist and by Miss Green of the State Library. Miss Green has checked the existing list of state documents which was compiled some years ago with the collection in the State Law Library adding whatever she found that was not included in the original list, a long and arduous task. The next step necessary is to check this list with the larger libraries and finally with the collections in the various state departments. This will require time and a good deal of diplomacy to accomplish. Miss Krausnick has reported on the publishing of the checklist and its difficulties to the following effect:

During the past year 14 numbers of the check list have been issued. The first for July, 1923, was issued shortly after the annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association in 1923, and number 14 for August, 1924 has just come from the printer.

Though some minor changes have been made the original plan as outlined last year has been adhered to. The check list is issued every month and contains a list of publications issued during the preceding month, which we have been able to secure, and a supplementary list of those for earlier months not received in time

for inclusion in earlier numbers. The aim is to include all publications issued by state departments however published, only very small and ephemeral publications are occasionally excluded.

The greatest problem in issuing the list is securing copies of the publications to be listed and it is through the diligence and persistent efforts of our accessions department and other members of the staff, through the co-operation of the Librarian of the University who assumed the responsibility of securing their publications for us, that we have been able to get all those that we do.

Until last October we secured copies of all that were issued through the state printer's office from that office. Now we secure these through the State Library which received 50 copies for distribution, chiefly to other state libraries. We also secure many publications from the various departments direct, especially from those that maintain mailing lists. But, even so, many publications are not received when issued. Though the department officials express a willingness to co-operate, it is difficult to secure all publications where the systems of distribution are not uniform, and various follow-up schemes are resorted to, personal visits to departments, letters of inquiry, and requests for certain publications that have been announced in some manner.

To what extent our persistence has been rewarded may be seen from a comparison of the number of the Minnesota entries in the Library of Congress Monthly Check List, which for the first six months of this year was 121, and our check list which listed 259 items during the period. The check list is now a regular publication of the Society and as such is sent to those members of the Minnesota Historical Society who request it, to institutions on our exchange list who request it, to state departments and institutions, to all subscribing libraries, and to those people and newspapers who receive the Minnesota History News.

The suggestion of the difficulty incurred in collecting documents moved Miss Coutryman to amend her report on legislation adding the section already given relative to the distribution of documents.

Mr. Walter reported for the committee on the survey of library service which has

been appointed by The American Library Association and is now at work, urging the co-operation of all librarians in filling out the questionnaire as promptly as possible.

The Report of the Education Committee was divided among the five members under the topics, Library instruction in elementary schools, in high schools, in teachers' colleges, in colleges and private schools, and adult education. The topic Recruiting librarians was treated by all members of the committee.

Reports of investigation were made by the various members present.

Library Instruction in Elementary Schools

The new Elementary Curriculum includes library lessons in the English course and a study of bookmaking in the Industrial Arts courses, as well as numerous reference lists. These features together with the project method of teaching are tending to encourage the training of grade children to be independent users of books. Children's Book Week and the emphasis on silent reading have called attention to the importance of the content of books, both informational and cultural. Courses in children's literature are being emphasized. A course is now being offered in the College of Education as well as in the Teachers Colleges.

Wherever there are trained librarians or teachers with special book interests, marked progress is evident from the school library reports. In the Minneapolis Public Library an Instructional Division has conducted systematic library lessons in the grades and high school. This Division has recently been expanded to include the administration of all libraries in schools below the senior high schools. In Hibbing one of the school librarians devotes all of her time to library instruction.

In most of the schools the school librarian is a high school teacher with a heavy program of teaching who does very little work with the grades. In several towns, elementary libraries are being developed in grade buildings usually by the principals. Several public libraries are opening branches for community service in outlying buildings. Wherever there is a contract between the school board and the library board the public library is enabled to secure the library aid and the elementary work is progressing. There are four

or five towns with active co-operation where contracts have not as yet been signed.

County library work has been a boon to the elementary work in small towns as well as rural schools. The work in Koochiching, Hennepin and Lake counties has been noteworthy, while Ramsey county is the first to attempt contracts between one room ungraded elementary schools and a public library. The Parent Teacher associations have assisted the movement. The Rural Institutes presented a brief outline of lessons suitable for the very small schools and the survey of the rural school libraries being made this year is strengthening the teachers understanding of their library resources.

Finally: Mr. H. H. B. Meyer, president of the A. L. A. urges instruction of the pupils in the use of a library: "It ought to be obvious that the first step in adult education is a knowledge of how to use the library. Every one is undergoing some form of adult education. The library is beginning to be recognized as perhaps the most flexible, and adaptable instrument for this. There is no single bit of knowledge that the pupil can carry away with him from the school that will be so useful to him in his subsequent development as a knowledge of how to use a library, what are the peculiarities of a card catalog, what is the significance of a bibliography, what are the most useful reference books and where can he secure the best information concerning the new books that are published."

Library Instruction in High schools

Questionnaires were sent to high schools having librarians with training. Twenty-one were returned. The following statements were inferred from these:

1. A very general active interest in library instruction. Recorded credit usually given. Library course in State high school curriculum used in part or in whole.
2. Help in cultural reading incidental.
3. Evaluation of magazines and newspapers for students customary.
4. Service to teachers largely notifying them of acquired material.

Two school librarians at Two Harbors and Aurora had classes for teachers. Owatonna announces classes for coming year.

5. Librarians recruit through student assistants.

Library Instruction in Teachers Colleges

Miss Hougham made a thorough investigation of library instruction in the six State Teachers Colleges under the following heads:

1. General instruction to junior students in the use of the library.
2. Library instruction to children in the grades and library service to the elementary school.
3. Library instruction to practice teachers.
4. Library instruction to rural school teachers.
5. Childrens' literature courses.
6. Elective courses in library organization and management.

The findings will be used as a basis of further work of the committee.

Conclusions in which the librarians are unanimous are:

1. That satisfactory results can be obtained only by giving library instruction a place in the curriculum with credit.
2. That a thoroughly qualified library instructor should eventually be added to the staff of each Teachers College library to conduct the work.
3. That courses of instruction should be carefully and definitely organized to be uniform in the six Teachers Colleges covering:
 - a. Use of the library.
 - b. Childrens' literature and the selection and use of childrens' books.
 - c. Practice in library instruction to grade pupils.
 - d. School library organization and management.
4. That the library instructor should supervise the elementary school library, which should serve as a practice laboratory for the students.

Library Instruction in Colleges and Private Schools

One third of the questionnaires sent to forty-two colleges and private schools in Minnesota and neighboring states were returned; one third of these were not used because no instruction was being given.

From those that were filled out the following indications were deduced:

1. When library instruction is given in a college it is done with scholarly thoroughness.

Carleton College librarian is doing a notable instruction work as part of the college course in *How to Study*. All college librarians will find an investigation of the outlines for this most profitable.

The College of St. Catherine also has a very comprehensive and well arranged General Outline of a Course in the Use of Books and Libraries.

Student credit is usually recorded for library classes whether the work is given as an individual course or as a part of some other course of study.

2. Cultural reading is influenced by college librarians in an incidental way only.
3. Magazines and newspapers are generally evaluated for students by college librarians.
4. Library service to teachers is usually incidental. Bibliographical assistance is given when desired. The librarians of two church colleges report talks on library subjects before their faculties.
5. A majority of librarians have definite plans for recruiting librarians from their student bodies. Student assistants classes and vocational talks to seniors are the prevailing methods. Four institutions allow college credit for work done in the apprentice class of the St. Paul Public Library. These are Carleton, Hamline, Macalester and St. Catherine's colleges.

The message from Mr. F. K. Walter of the University of Minnesota library is particularly interesting to us because we are looking expectantly to the University to establish a library school.

The following is his report:

In brief what we have done in library training is as follows:

1. A course in the use of books and libraries has been offered freshmen and sophomores. It is a quarter course and carries two credits. Although registration has been limited to twenty-five in each of the two sections offered in each quarter there has always been an over registration. This coming year we expect to add a

third section. Nearly every section has contained upper classmen who have joined the class at their special request.

2. A senior course in bibliography has been offered, but as yet has not been given. The offer will be repeated, although it is not likely to attract many people until the interest in bibliography becomes more keen.
3. A group of summer courses by the Misses Hutchinson, Powell, and Roshold, in classification, cataloging and book selection for adults respectively, was given at the past summer session. The attendance was much smaller than previous years, due very largely to a conflict in courses. The College of Education conducted its own course under Miss Penrose, but gave credits in some cases to the other courses which were offered by the College of Science, Literature and the Arts.
4. A special course of training for Hospital Librarians has been offered for the coming year. It is very rigid and it is probable that another year will be needed to work up the necessary publicity.

Regarding the establishment of a regular library school, two things must be taken into consideration: (1) The need of money to establish such a school with an adequate faculty; (2) The assurance of enough students to conduct such a school on a high plane.

Adult Education

Mrs. Jennings spoke of adult education as the catchword in the library profession at the present moment, although not a new movement. She emphasized the two essentials as (1) the service of the proper librarian and (2) the ability to furnish the books as needed. The work already undertaken in Buffalo, N. Y., Chicago and Milwaukee was outlined.

"While each library must solve its problem in its own way, certain general suggestions may be made. First, each library should study its whole field and thus determine the needs of its community. What is the proportion of school population to adult population? How much of the adult population is not being reached? Are the children out of school as well as

in school getting the educational advantages they should have from the Public Library? Is this portion of your community (the adults and the children beyond the required school age) receiving its rightful share of the library's budget?

"While the individual student is not to be neglected, a survey of the existing educational agencies, study clubs, Teachers' Reading Circles, extension classes, night schools, Americanization classes, Workers College classes, and many others, will show where the Library may be of the greatest help. It is not the part of the library to supplant, or to "run," any educational agency, school or college, but to supplement their efforts and strengthen them by its hearty co-operation. And in so doing we shall doubtless discover new fields which the library alone can successfully cultivate."

After the reports by various members of the committee, Miss Tawney submitted the following:

Recommendations:

1. To standardize instruction in the use of the dictionary this committee recommends that the next Education Committee prepare and make available a series of alphabetizing tests for the fourth, fifth, sixth and junior high school grades.

The committee recommends that a series of dictionary tests also be made available for these same grades.

2. To stimulate good reading this committee recommends that the next Education Committee make an outline for a simple, voluntary survey of the cultural reading done through the childrens' rooms of elementary school and public libraries of the state.
3. To increase the attendance at the library courses given at the University of Minnesota, the Education Committee recommends that these courses be of such weight that the credits for them will be accepted by reputable library schools.
4. To balance the summer library courses offered by the University, this committee recommends that the following

*Mr. Wheelock's paper is printed in full in another column.

subjects be added to those given the past summer:

Selection of childrens' books.

Elementary reference work.

Advance reference work.

5. Because of the dearth of trained librarians, to meet an increasing demand for their services in the state, this committee recommends that the pressing need for regular library courses during the regular school year, be brought to the attention of the University authorities as forcibly as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Tawney (Colleges and Private Schools).

Harriet A. Wood (Elementary Schools).

Jennie T. Jennings (Adult Education).

Sarah Hougham (Teachers' Colleges).

Margaret R. Greer (High Schools).

Following the reports of committees, Mr. Wheelock departed from the printed program by omitting his own carefully prepared paper on ***Specialized Library Service in Adult Education** and introduced Mr. Richard Price, head of the University Extension Division, who spoke on the work of his department. The aim of the Extension Division, he said, was to bring to the people of the state the facilities of the University. He further defined it (1) as the bringing of education to the whole body of the people (the invention of printing being the first university extension service) (2) the bringing of University work to the whole period of life and (3) attaching University study to all the vital interests of life. After sketching a little of the history of the movement Mr. Price defined the motives in adult education as being either economic, a desire for a better position, or the result of a sublimated curiosity, the wanting to know, or the desire for culture which means the participating in a larger, richer life. The University Extension must offer a flexible method of satisfying any one of these motives. The paramount task of the University is to devote itself to young people, but any extra time should be devoted to others. The University may be either a lighthouse or a power plant. As a matter of fact, it is trying to be both. Mr. Price

distinguished between the passive acquiring of desultory information by casual reading, lectures and the like, and the active grappling with a definite subject and conquering it, this last being real adult education. The University Extension Division has two methods of meeting the needs of the aspiring adult. The first is by correspondence study. Its difficulties are that it lacks the stimulus of class emulation, of the teacher, of class discussion and the lone individual may become easily discouraged. Its advantages are that each student gets the individual attention of the teacher, the student must answer all questions, personal initiative is stimulated and self reliance and mental integrity are cultivated. About 1200 students took correspondence work last year.

The class method is limited to the Twin Cities and Duluth and has about 4000 registered students. Its distinction from the regular course is that it is usually down town, the students are more mature and they are not taking courses under compulsion. Its disadvantage is that the students are tired at the end of a day's work, and it is a severe test of the professor's teaching ability.

Mr. Joseph G. Pyle of the Hill Reference Library followed Mr. Price. He said in part: The Hill Reference library is public except that it owns its own building, income and board of trustees. Aside from this it is open to everybody and its shelves are open to everybody. It has about 28,000 volumes including the best and most authoritative books on any subject. Old, superseded books are thrown away. It has private study rooms which can be used by any one doing research work and which may be kept locked so as to prevent the disturbance of books. The library is open daily from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. except Sundays and holidays. Teachers, professors, students and those wishing collateral reading are welcome. It will buy all books requested within reasonable limits and will lend to other libraries. The aim of the staff is to give not only answers, but to lay all material before the inquirer.

Miss Baldwin spoke on the reference work of the State Traveling Library outlining some recent changes in its policy. The principal one of these is that wherever there is a library available, books requested by individuals will be sent to the

library so as to acquaint inquirers with the resources near at hand. Another is that on library loans, postage is only required one way. Library aids are for loan or distribution and the division stands ready to help in every way possible. She pled for co-operation on the part of librarians so that all libraries might be part of one big state system, strengthened by unity.

Miss van Buren of Owatonna arose to express the appreciation of the Owatonna Public Library to the Hill Reference Library, the St. Paul Public Library, the Minneapolis Public Library and the University Library for the many kindnesses shown. The applause with which her remarks were greeted showed that other small libraries appreciated this spirit of library co-operation.

At the noon hour, many of the librarians attended a luncheon of the catalog section at the Chateau Inn, at which informal talks were given by Miss Helen Starr, Miss Humiston and Miss Hutchinson.

The afternoon was given over to section meetings in the new library building.

The Catalogers Round Table, College and School Librarians and Small Libraries Round Table held separate meetings with carefully prepared programs, all of which were well attended.

Thursday evening, members of the association, one hundred strong, went to the Agricultural Campus where Miss Sewall had arranged for a sumptuous dinner after which President Coffman gave an address. He said in part:

"The early library was a place for retirement, quiet reading and meditation. It signified culture. It was exclusive. It will always have something of this significance. But the tremendous growth of printed material, the increased size of libraries has laid undue emphasis on statistics, and has brought about an increase in the organization and machinery of administration by which much of the earlier casual contact with books has been lost. Whenever a system of administration emphasizes the custodianship and guardianship of the books largely to the exclusion of their general use, it minimizes if not destroys one of the largest opportunities for service. I am of the opinion that wise guidance of students,

sympathetic assistance, a genuine interest in their problems, a willingness to spend time and energy with them individually will pay enormous dividends. This means that those who work in libraries should look upon their work in a distinctive, professional sense. To cultivate fine and gentle tastes in others, they must have them themselves. One employed in a library who does not feel that he is an apostle in a great calling, ministering to thousands of intellectual crises, and keenly appreciative of the obligations of his servanthip, knows nothing of the meaning of his opportunity. An agency whose chief motive and impelling purpose is service must constantly reform itself. Unless there is a continual revitalization of its processes, the practices will become routinized and opportunities wasted. The use of all materials to whom they should administer will depend very largely upon the intelligence, capability and sympathy, enthusiasm and industry of the library personnel. It is not enough for the librarian to refer the seeker after knowledge to the card catalog for a list of books, or to place before him a large number of books of a more or less miscellaneous character dealing with a given subject. There should be some definite assistance given. It is important that librarians discover advantageous ways of preparing and presenting important material for the purpose of arousing a progressive interest among their readers. The function and purpose of a library is that it should not be a loafing place, but a place for work, characterized by an atmosphere of intelligent organization and purposeful industry; that those who elect the life of a librarian should consider themselves belonging to a new clergy of the mind, whose opportunities for usefulness are great, whose responsibilities are heavy."

After President Coffman's address members of the staffs of the St. Paul and Minneapolis Public Libraries presented a number of amusing stunts for the edification of the guests.

Friday morning out of town delegates to the convention were entertained at a very enjoyable picnic breakfast on the river bank as guest of the Minneapolis Public Library and the Twin City Library Club.

The Friday morning session began with the report of the nominating committee which was accepted and the secretary cast the ballot for the following officers:

President—Miss Ethel McCubrey, Moorhead.

Vice-President—Miss Gertrude Krausnick, Minnesota Historical Library.

Secretary-Treasurer — Miss Gertrude Glennon, Stillwater.

Executive Committee—Officers and Mr. Wheelock (Ex-officio).

Mrs. R. H. G. Netz, Trustee, Owatonna Public Library.

Miss Rose O'Connor gave an interesting report of the hospital work in Sioux City of which she has charge. So popular has her work become, she says, that new hospitals all make provisions for library service. She has also under her jurisdiction the county home for delinquent girls as an opening wedge toward county work.

Miss Carey gave in her inimitable way, an informal report of the A. L. A. meeting which was greatly enjoyed. This was followed by a paper on Recent Fiction prepared by Miss Alice Lyons of Eveleth and read by Miss McKenzie of Duluth.

Miss Harriet Dutcher of Duluth reported on the New Biographies of the Year.

(By request of many librarians, the papers by Miss Lyons and Miss Dutcher are printed in full in this number of Library Notes & News).

Mr. Leonard Wells of Powers Book Department gave an interesting discussion of books from the point of view of the private library. He suggested that most publishers issue illustrated catalogs of children's books which might be clipped to advantage and the pictures used to interest children in good books. He had as an illustration of fine paper and printing a single page from the Gutenberg Bible which he left for those interested to examine.

Miss Della McGregor presented a list of new children's books which has been issued by the St. Paul Public Library under the title of Books for Boys and Girls. It contains outstanding new titles and new editions of old favorites that have come into print during 1923 and 1924.

Friday noon as many delegates as could, took lunch together at the Yellow Lantern, where Miss O'Connor told something more of her hospital work. At 1:15 Mr. Fairclough of the University Music Department

gave a most delightful organ recital which was much enjoyed. Afterward Dean Ford of the University spoke on the

Ideals of a Librarian.

He said among other things: "The librarian should be big enough to forget training and forget to claim it as an asset. Do not take purely technical knowledge and make it paramount. The librarian should have professional pride without group consciousness. The trouble with us is that we oil our feathers so that things outside our profession roll off. We should participate in the activities of our organization both for the purpose of raising standards and for the sake of the inspiration derived from the group: Those who hold ideals of service rather than monetary standards are the salt of the earth. Librarianship is not a profession of incompetence, it needs force and personality, and especially tolerance and open-mindedness above any other profession. You are doing in full sense a public service and you must have courage or you will never give that service. You are charged with responsibility in your community and you must fight for it. Don't be afraid of your job. Librarians are too pussy-footing. We don't give a living exhibition of our faith in our service by demanding resources. The measure of any man is the terms in which he thinks. The librarian should think of the whole community in great plans for its welfare. If there is anything about to happen in your town and you don't ask what part the library has in it you are asleep on the job. Nothing should happen in the community that the library isn't in on one or two jumps ahead. America has one faith, education. Adult education can bridge the gap between the older and the younger generation. America is now asking questions about herself and her institutions. In opening up this way, in steadying the judgment the library is preeminent."

Mrs Jennings, who was to have spoken on the Ideal Librarian, said that Dean Ford had covered the subject so well and so eloquently that she begged to be excused from attempting to add anything.

The Report of the Resolutions Committee was presented by Miss Baldwin as follows:

Whereas; the supply of trained librarians is far less than the demand,

Therefore, be it resolved:

That the Minnesota Library Association reaffirms its earnest belief that courses in library training should be given as a part of the regular curriculum of the University of Minnesota, and that the courses offered be of such a standard that credits given for them will be accepted by reputable library schools:

Resolved: That the association make every possible effort to bring this need to the attention of the proper University authorities:

Be it further resolved:

That the Association endorse the recommendation of the Legislative Committee that legislation be sought to provide for certification of school librarians and better distribution of state publications to libraries.

Resolved: That the thanks of this association be extended to the University of Minnesota and the College of Agriculture for the use of their buildings and the excellent dinners:

To all business houses and the institutions whose fine exhibits added to the interest of the meeting, and to Miss Winifred F. Ticer, consulting librarian of the Democrat Printing Co. for the printed programs.

To the Local Committee on arrangements, the Twin City Library Club, the Librarian of the University and his staff, and to the members of the staffs of the Minneapolis and St. Paul Public Libraries for their hospitality and entertainments:

To the Executive Committee for the excellent program, and to all those who took part in the program, particularly to Dr. Bryn-Jones, President Coffman, Dean Ford, Mr. Richard Price, Mr. Joseph G. Pyle, Mr. Leonard Wells, Mr. George Fairclough and Miss Rose O'Connor of Sioux City:

Be it further resolved, that we express our appreciation of the presence of Dr. James K. Hosmer, Dr. Warren Upham, early officers of this Association, and our regret at the absence of Dr. Folwell, its first president:

Resolved that the secretary be requested to make suitable acknowledgement to the persons and institutions named in these resolutions.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. Carothers, Chairman.

Mrs. Jennie T. Jennings.

Clara F. Baldwin.

After the presentation of this report Miss Baldwin presented the following resolution: That a membership committee be appointed to investigate the question of membership with a view to proposing an amendment to the constitution relative to the raising or adjusting of the dues of the organization. After some discussion this resolution was moved and accepted. The meeting then adjourned and those members who wished were taken for an auto ride to various branches of the Minneapolis Public Library concluding with tea at the Franklin and Seven Corners branches.

Financial Statement

On hand, Nov. 9, 1923	\$ 85.06
Received in dues for the	
year 1923-24	188.50
Total Receipts	273.56
Expenditures 1923-24 ..	121.73
Total on hand Oct 1, 1924	\$151.83

LURA C. HUTCHINSON,

Secretary-Treasurer.

1925 Conference

A meeting of the Executive Board of the M. L. A. was held Dec. 5. Committees for the coming year were appointed and it was unanimously voted that Minnesota should join her neighboring states in a regional conference in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1925, provided such a conference is approved by the Executive Board of the American Library Association.

SMALL LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE

The Round Table for Small Libraries was attended by about 60 people, many of whom took part in the live and informal discussions. Miss Ethel McCubrey, Moorhead, presided.

The first topic and one of prime importance in all small libraries was introduced by Miss Cornelia Plaister, South St. Paul:

Increasing the Library Appropriation

Increased appropriation for library support can generally be traced back to efficient service to the public and adequate publicity, both through the newspapers and by personal talks to all kinds of groups in the community. In a smaller library, where much untrained help must be used, it behooves us to enthuse our workers with

the fullest ideals of library service, and to hold them to a standard of efficient service for each and every borrower who comes to the library.

When we realize how many or how few of the city fathers are patrons of the Library, then we can realize whether they must know of the good we are doing first hand, or through some other medium. Reports to the city council direct are the best method of reaching them with information, and a good plan is to go personally to the council with your yearly report or any other report which vitally interests them. Do not campaign for one week or two before the annual budget is to be made, but campaign all the year through.

When the request is made to the city council have with you prepared budgets of the appropriation for which you are asking. In South St. Paul each councilman is seen by some member of the Library Board who can approach him well, before the budget meeting, and a prepared budget given to him with whatever explanations of increases or changes are necessary. Thus the ground is prepared and the budget has been passed without question each time. When our large increase was asked the councilmen, the city recorder and treasurer were entertained at dinner by the Library Board, at which time the work of the Library was stressed. The Library was new and it was thought best to acquaint the council with its activities.

Remember in preparing your budget to allow a certain per cent for unpaid taxes. The city recorder can tell you what amount should be included from past experience.

Miss Jean Stewart, Wadena, reported on their recent success in inaugurating and carrying out a contract with the schools. (Miss Stewart's talk is printed in full on another page).

The difficulty of carrying on work with children with untrained helpers, a difficulty which confronts most small libraries, was discussed by Miss Margaret Hickman, Rochester.

Under the topic of New Projects in Library Extension, Miss Nelle Olson, Buhl, described the bus service which was given to the village of Kinney last year.

Miss McCubrey closed the program by reading a paper on the **Professional Reading of the Librarian**. She said that with

the changing ideals of library service the slogan that "The librarian who reads is lost" should be changed to "The librarian who does not read is lost," with emphasis on read.

The librarian must read, first to know the resources of her library and second to become more proficient in her profession. The professional reading includes the periodicals, pamphlets, books and book information that form our intellectual tools for giving real library service. Among these were mentioned *Library Journal*, *Public Libraries* and our own state *Library Notes and News*. Attention was called to the list of new library publications in September *Library Notes and News*, with special mention of Ward's *Publicity for public libraries* and Wheeler's *The library and the community*. Among useful book reviews the A. L. A. Booklist, Bookman, *Literary Digest International Book Review*, *Book Review Digest*, *Current Opinion* were noted. Periodicals and newspapers must be examined in order to keep abreast of the times. If the habit of rapidly scanning new material as it goes through our hands is cultivated, much valuable information may be stored up for future use. "Our professional reading can be the 'joy of expansion,' for we will not get into a rut if we are able to get a bird's-eye view of our resources and have them at our finger's tip when demanded."

SPECIALIZED LIBRARY SERVICE IN ADULT EDUCATION

By Webster Wheelock, Librarian, St. Paul Public Library.

Once in a while, most, if not all of us who are responsible for the conduct of a library or a department, have a feeling of discouragement when we contemplate how much there is to be done and the wholly inadequate funds we have to do it with. But it is one of the joys of our work that we have, as librarians, accomplished what we have in spite of this handicap. That is the distinctive glory of the library profession in this country. It has had ideas as well as ideals and it has made them materialize. By its care for the few talents given into its stewardship, it has, little by little, justified itself and won public support, and it has, little by little, increased the scope and the usefulness of the library until it has become in the larger cities the

highly developed organism that it is, and in thousands of towns is performing with more or less completeness, and in most cases with remarkable efficiency, almost all the functions performed by the larger libraries. The difference is one of size rather than of variety of function.

So when a new activity, which in the larger cities means ultimately a new department, is proposed, an activity, that is, like the other general library activities, a natural and inevitable outgrowth of what has gone before, there is ample reason for the smaller library to be interested. There should be no discouragement that there is one more activity to be cared for, one more idea to explain and to impress on a hard-headed board, one more item that will add something to expenses. There should rather be enthusiasm that the library plant is still putting forth twigs to become branches and foliage, is still vigorous and growing and a certain faith that as every past development has won recognition and support, so this new idea will justify itself, if it has merit, and will win recognition and support, just as recognition and support have been won by reference work, work with children, work in the schools, departmental development and differentiation, the business service, the technical service, the fine arts service, the hospital service and county extension, so with this new idea—the new bud on the old plant—"adult education" which formed the theme, if not of the A. L. A. conference, at least of President Jennings' address and of one intensely interesting, though hastily improvised round table. And this, too, is the theme of this conference.

But we really mean two things when we use the term "adult education." It is used in the program in its broad and inclusive sense. It has been used by me a few sentences ago in a narrower sense. In its broader sense, adult education is not new in library work. It is as old as the library. Those are perfectly right who say, "But we have always been engaged in adult education." But for want of a more specific and defining term, it has recently been used to mean the "Educational Advisor" or as Chicago calls it, "The Readers' Bureau," both unsatisfactory titles. But we are not here to bother about words—words will be found to fit. The important thing is the thing itself. That thing is what is

already being done by the Chicago library—a specialized service for those who want to pursue a systematic course of reading and study, a service whose future development is forecasted in a recent publication of the Carnegie Corporation—an informal memorandum by Dr. William S. Learned, originally not intended for publication. Many of you have doubtless received it and I hope that all who have, have read it. For it is so stimulating and forward-looking that I most gladly acceded to Mr. Dickerson's request to call especial attention to it. It is called the "American Public Library and the Diffusion of Knowledge" and covers much more than the Chicago experiment. But to me its chief significance lies in its development of the idea that Chicago is experimenting with, and it is to that phase that I want to call attention.

Chicago, as you perhaps all know, has established a special department whose sole business it is to prepare special courses of study for those who apply to it. These courses cover everything except purely technical subjects, but they do not exclude cultural courses even in these subjects. They are prepared to fit the specific wants and aptitudes of each applicant after a personal interview. Not only particular books but particular passages in books are included in the syllabi and the student is supposed to follow the sequence. To make this possible the library undertakes to reserve for each student every book referred to so that it will be on hand when needed. The attendant in charge keeps a check on each person's progress and at the A. L. A. round-table reported that at that time every applicant had completed his work—none had fallen by the wayside. That there is great need of this service was made obvious by Chicago's experience. One announcement of its plan produced in the first week forty applicants who wanted twenty-eight different courses. It had to stop advertising, but in June it had already served about two hundred applicants.

It is not the idea that the service shall take the place of University Extension or other night courses, but that it shall supplement them. There are many subjects that such courses do not cover. There are many persons who cannot afford even the small fees required. There are many persons whose hours are such that they cannot take advantage of such courses. Where a

course of instruction exists, the applicant is recommended to take it; but when it does not exist, and when it is not feasible to take it, the library undertakes to supply the need.

Obviously as the department proceeds it will have accumulated scores of syllabi that will greatly lessen its labors. So much for what has been done in Chicago.

The library of the future, according to Dr. Learned, will be "a community intelligence service." It will include all the best that is being done in our reference departments, but it would also require a more highly specialized personnel which must "command all of the college teacher's familiarity with the literature of a strictly limited field, plus the power which the college teacher may and often does lack completely, namely—the power speedily to read his applicant's mental equipment and point of view, and to sense intuitively the character of his personal need. A community of the size, say of Akron, would have a staff of 20 or more specialists, whose business would be to make knowledge popular through books and by talks, lectures and interviews. This staff would be the popular driving force in scientific education, both adult and adolescent."

Note that the essential features of this plan which applies both to reference service and to adult educational courses are (1) specialization (2) personal contact (3) the selection of material to suit the individual. "The teacher's success is measured by the extent to which each individual may be confronted with what he desires to know in that form in which he can most readily appropriate it."

Now obviously such an elaborate staff as that contemplated could not be maintained except in the larger cities, but Dr. Learned foresees the time when the small town library will be working in close connection with cities that have ample collections and that will furnish prompt answers to questions, provide photostat copies of reference matter, and he goes on to say that it is absurd to suppose that towns of 5,000 people which now usually maintain a good high school will not make corresponding provision for their entire adult population when they perceive what a service of no larger proportions adjusted to its adult needs may mean.

I take it that we are several years away from the realization of this forecast of highly specialized service but we are by no means far away from the institution of educational advisors such as Chicago has. It is a short easy step if the funds are available and from that beginning on to a specialized staff the movement will be progressive if library work keeps its vitality and vigor. In the meantime, a method of co-operation between the university and the library for the purpose of satisfying the wants of the intellectually hungry adult patron of the library might well be devised to supplement the university extension service.

RECENT FICTION

By Alice Lyons, Librarian, Eveleth Public Library.

At a time when books become out-of-date in three months, and the public, for the most part, is satisfied with only the novel whose pages are still wet from the press, it is difficult to decide just which books to include in a discussion on Recent Fiction. As a matter of convenience, however, I shall be ultra conservative and include titles which have been published since the meeting of the Minnesota Library Association last year. Of the hundreds of novels which have been published since last September, of course only a small per cent can find space in a small public library. To choose titles which the library can recommend whole-heartedly to a public with as many tastes and moods as there are borrowers, is no small task. With the publisher's "blurb" and the uncertain criticisms, we are often far from confident of the results of our choosing. As Mr. Alfred Kuttner stated in an article called *Our Literary Renaissance* in the February issue of the *Forum* "Literary criticism in this country has not yet caught up with the chaotic output of creative writing that began during the last years of the war. The new experimental writers are damned by the old standards and dangerously coddled by their sycophants, a condition which adds to their difficulties and keeps uninitiated readers in the dark." On whom can the responsibility of this chaotic output be placed? Can the author be too harshly criticised—for as Hamlin Garland has said, "does it not happen that the manuscript

with an original plot, the play with literary qualities, is returned because the editor knows very well that it will not appeal to the common denominator of his public? Do not many hasty shallow books get published merely because they have a sensational appeal to the unthinking public? Any one who asks, "What's the matter with American literature?" may find his answer in the office of the advertising manager, or the box office at the theatre, for that is the place where the mandates of America's democratic millions are registered."

Is the publisher to be too bitterly condemned for putting out such great quantities of mediocre books? He must keep his presses busy and must be assured of returns sufficient to keep his organization intact. When it comes to the last analysis, are we not forcing the author and publisher to create for us just what we want? Without doubt, when we are ready for something better, deeper, more profound, no one will rejoice more than the author or publisher in producing it for us. Another opening offers itself for the adult education of fiction lovers.

In the meantime, we are confronted with the books at hand, and out of the "chaotic output" of 1923-1924, I have chosen a comparatively few titles which seem suitable for any small library. Doubtless many are here that ought not to be here, and many are not here that ought to be here, but at least there is variety enough, and the standard is not too high nor yet too low, I hope, for the general public.

In order to facilitate selection, the titles have been grouped under the headings frequently called for by the public.

It is true now as at any time that "all the world loves a lover" and the Home and Love Stories are always in demand. Among those receiving much attention are: *The perfect wife* by Bottome, *The homemaker* by Fisher, *Butterfly* by Norris, *The Callahans* and *the Murphys* by Norris, and *The inverted pyramid* by Sinclair.

Closely allied to that type are the character studies, in which we watch the development or disintegration of the characters under examination. Some of the outstanding novels in this group are: *Siege* by Adams, *Riceyman Steps* by Bennett, *Interpreter's house* by Burt, *Lost lady* by

Cather, *So big* by Ferber, *Happy isles* by King, *Avalanche* by Poole and Young Felix by Swinnerton.

Mystery stories never fail to arouse enthusiasm and of the large number being published, a few that have been popular are: *The safety pin* and *The Mazaroff* mystery by Fletcher, *Friday to Monday* by Garrett, *Who killed Cock Robin* by Hext, *Michael's evil deeds* by Oppenheim, *More lives than one* by Wells, and *The orange divan* by Williams.

In spite of Pollyanna's disrepute, the *Cheerful* or *Humorous Stories* are not without a large following. Some that are cheerful, without being too "glad" are: *Advisory Ben* by Lucas, *Told by an idiot* by Macaulay, *Pandora lifts the lid* by Morley, *Rufus* by Richmond, *The leap year girl* by Ruck, *Oh, Doctor* by Wilson, *Golf without tears* by Wodehouse, *Leave it to Psmith* by Wodehouse, *Bunk* by Woodward.

Of the few historical novels written recently, *The soul of Abe Lincoln* by Babcock, *Black hood* by Dixon, and *The beauty of the purple* by William Stearns Davis of the Minnesota University faculty are outstanding.

Romance is never without its appeal and we have been fortunate in being able to offer such satisfying titles as: *The rover* by Conrad, *Sir John Dering* by Farnol, *The dark frigate* by Hawes, *Thousand and first night* by Overton, *Never the twain shall meet* by Kyne, *Bardelys the magnificent*, *Fortune's fool*, and *Mistress Wilding* by Sabatini, and *The turning point* by Tracy.

Whatever we may think of the faults or virtues of the younger generation, it is interesting to note what they themselves are recording and also some of the things being written about them. Among the books written about school life and young people are: *None so blind* by Fitch and *Heirs apparent* by Gibbs.

Times without number, come the demand for a book about a special place—a western, or city, or northern story. Some of the tales which have a certain locality for background are: *Sandoval* by Beer, *Old New York* including *False dawn*, *New Year's Day*, *The old maid* and *The spark* by Wharton, *The blind bow* by Van Vechten, the scenes of which are all laid in New York City. Those dealing with the middle west are: *The Midlander* by Tarkington,

Hope of happiness by Nicholson, J. Hardin and son by Whitlock, *Able McLaughlins* by Wilson and *Country people* by Suckow. The far west, Mexico, and Canada form alluring backgrounds for the following: *John Dover* by Cameron, *Mother of gold* by Hough, *Wilderness patrol* by Bindloss, *Call of the canyon* by Grey. Cape Cod is well represented by Joseph Lincoln's *Dr. Nye* and *Rugged water*.

Books with scenes laid in foreign countries are not many, but worthy of note, altho not generally popular in their appeal: *Race* by McFee has an English setting, while *Mariflor* by Espina took the Spanish prize for literature. *Deirdre* by Stephens is a lovely and pathetic tale, with Ireland for its background.

A FEW BIOGRAPHIES OF 1924

By Harriet S. Dutcher, Reference Librarian, Duluth Public Library.

"In the Footsteps of the Lincolns" is Miss Tarbell's latest contribution to the history of the Lincoln family. She traces their migrations, beginning with their first appearance in Massachusetts in 1637 and following them through their wanderings till they reach Illinois. The book is authoritative because of the author's careful researches and is inspiring in its emphasis on the brave, independent spirit of the pioneers and in the refutation of some accepted traditions that seem to detract from Lincoln's greatness. It closes with his triumphant election to the presidency. This is an important book for a library to own, since it corrects other biographies not so trustworthy.

"Episodes before Thirty" recounts the American adventure of Algernon Blackwood, the English novelist, during ten years of his life, between the ages of twenty and thirty. It tells of his unsuccessful business enterprises in Canada and of his difficult search for a livelihood in New York City. He gives a vivid picture of the sordidness of the city, of his life of poverty, sickness and discouragement, of the many types of people that he encounters, and of his reaction to all these influences. His account of his experiences has all the excitement and impetus of a first-rate story, and as a human document and a picture of real life, is most appealing.

A new life of Shelley, with the title "Ariel," has been written by André Mau-

rois and translated by Ella D'Arcy. The facts of Shelley's life are here woven into story form. The chief interest is the author's conception of the character of Shelley. He pictures him as an attractive, irresponsible sprite, but more than a mere sprite in his large unselfishness and idealism. There is no attempt at appreciation of his genius; hence, as a portrait, it seems incomplete, but on the whole, it is a sympathetic and faithful sketch. The narrative is well done and makes Shelley live before the reader.

Romain Rolland's sketch of Mahatma Gandhi is an interpretation of Ghandi's philosophy and work in India, by one who is an ardent admirer and holds similar views. It is written with insight and understanding and feeling born of personal conviction.

"My Book and Heart," by Corra Harris, records events in the life of the "Circuit Rider's Wife" and reveals the heart of the wife and mother as well. It shows the struggle of a cheerful and courageous woman in meeting and overcoming the difficulties of her life, and her final evolution into a "literary person." Interwoven with her experiences are bits of her sensible and optimistic philosophy.

"An Intimate Portrait of R. L. S.," by Lloyd Osbourne, is a real addition to Stevensoniana by reason of the cordial and delightful friendship between Osbourne and his step-father, and because of the natural charm of the style. It consists of a series of sketches of Stevenson as the author saw him at different periods of his life in the various places that he made his home.

Other biographies which may be mentioned are: "The Life and Letters of Emily Dickinson," edited by her niece, Mrs. Bianchi; "Thackeray and his Daughter," by Hester Ritchie; "St. Francis of Assisi," by Chesterton; "The Soul of Samuel Pepys," by Gamaliel Bradford.

CONTRACTS WITH SCHOOLS

By Jean Stewart, Librarian, Wadena Public Library.

In the small town, where there is no school librarian and usually an insufficient supply of books for the needs of students, there ought to be no difficulty in convincing school and library authorities that co-operation for better and more economical library service would be of mutual benefit.

And I believe that co-operation of this sort would be more common in the small towns if it were generally understood that the making of a contract does not mean forcing on a community something impractical for that community but means simply that there is an earnest desire on the part of all concerned to get and to give the best possible service circumstances will warrant. The intelligent use of what we have is usually the first step towards something better and perhaps some of us have not been using to its fullest extent what we have.

In our town, with a two-room library, in the village hall, the school board have just made a contract with the public library board, calling for additional library service to the school and this contract is so simple in form as to be practical for very small towns offering library service and wishing to add a modest sum annually to the library treasury.

The first result of this contract was the opening of the library daily. Our School Superintendent is stressing the use of the library by grade pupils and beginning with the fourth grade, one grade a day comes to the library to choose books for outside reading. The library is open for circulation each afternoon from 3 to 5:30 and in order to serve the public and the school without confusion some system is necessary. This is the plan which is working very satisfactorily. The general public who wish books on school days come between 3 and 3:45. Grade children 3:45 to 4:15, high school students 4:15 to 5:30. Saturday afternoon and evening is reserved for the general public and lower grade children who do not come with teachers.

The grade children (one grade a day) are accompanied by their teachers. They form in line outside the school and march to the library (3 blocks). As an advertising medium this is hard to beat. If there was any one in our town who did not know there was a public library he knows it now.

In order that the grade students may make the best possible use of the weekly visit to the library, we made a list of the books desirable for each grade and handed to the teacher to be posted in her room—author, title and class number if non-fiction. When students choose from this list they copy on the blackboard. Knowing what books they want and where to find

them there is no time wasted, in fact there is often time left for a school lesson in the use of the library, stressing some particular point suggested by the teacher. For example, one teacher asked that her pupils be encouraged to read simple biography. Now there is one advantage in having limited space—everything is close up. These children are in the reading room and immediately in front of them is a row of shelves reserved for high school English. Each particular group of books marked plainly by subject, so it was a very simple matter to call attention to the history shelf, lead up to personal history called biography and ask if some of them would not like to choose their books from that shelf. In a few moments they were coming to the desk with "Boy's life of Mark Twain," "Life of Edison," "Joan of Arc," etc., and before they left the teacher asked them to name in unison the class number for biography. This may not always be the approved method of approach in giving library lessons, but note the result. A few days later there came to the library the father of one of these children and observing him looking around uncertainly we asked if he wanted help. He smiled and said, "I had my instructions from small son before coming today—the boy told me that the librarian had so many children coming to the library nowadays that she had no time to fool around hunting books for people, so I'd better learn how to find my own books. He further informed me that 921 was the class number for biography." In a few minutes our friend came to the desk and handed over *The Life and letters of Walter Page*, remarking, "I have an idea that boy will be asking when I get back if I found my own book and if it is **921 biography**." And so working together, teachers, pupils, parents and librarian we are trying to encourage an all round intelligent use of a very small library, realizing that with the ability to use intelligently the small library, there will be no difficulty in learning to use the large one when the opportunity is afforded.

A PUBLIC LIBRARY IN A SCHOOL BUILDING

**By Mrs. Lulu E. Owens, Librarian,
Princeton.**

Our library has been operating in the school building for four years and the plan has proved most satisfactory. I consider

it an ideal arrangement for a small town where the appropriation is of necessity small.

We have an agreement with the school board by which they furnish the room with all the equipment, heat, light and janitor service. They pay one-half the librarian's salary, for the magazines for the teachers, and at least as much for books as their state apportionment amounts to.

The library board pays the other half of the librarian's salary, for mending material and other incidental expenses. The remainder of their apportionment is spent for books and magazines.

The school building is situated about three blocks from the center of town, and at first there was some feeling that it was too far from the shopping district, but that objection has overcome itself, as people find that the advantage of having their children bring them their books, if they do not care to visit the library themselves, offsets the disadvantage.

We feel that the class of books read by the public has improved by the influence of the school, and our circulation has increased three-fold since we have been here.

We also find that teachers and librarian are able to co-operate to better advantage in giving the children a better grade of reading material. Many plans have been worked out by which children are encouraged to read the best literature.

Having the children right in the building the librarian has an excellent opportunity for teaching the use of books and libraries.

We have thought that it would be an advantage to have a representative from both the school board and the city council on the library board, as then conditions would be fully understood by all concerned.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Meetings

The midwinter meeting of the A. L. A. will be held in Chicago during the week of December 29th. Three open meetings of the Council are announced for the mornings of January 1st, 2nd and 3rd. There will also be meetings of the League of Library Commissions, Hospital Librarians Round Table, College and Reference Section and Normal School Librarians. An

open meeting of the Board of Education for Librarianship is scheduled on the afternoon of December 31.

The next annual conference of the A. L. A. will be held in Seattle, Wash., July 6-11, 1925.

Board of Education for Librarianship.

Ten library schools have been visited by Board members during October and November and splendid co-operation is being received from the Association of American Library Schools. An investigation into the possibilities of a job analysis for library work is being considered favorably. Such a study would have definite bearings on textbooks and curricula for library schools and hence is of vital interest to the board.

The Commission on The Library and Adult Education has issued the following statement:

The Commission on The Library and Adult Education has been greatly impressed by Dr. W. S. Learned's report on "The American public library and the diffusion of knowledge" (Harcourt, 1924, \$1.50). We have found it a study showing unusual acquaintance with our problems, an intimate knowledge of detail remarkable indeed in any one not closely associated for years with library work.

He has opened up vistas for us, avenues of possible achievement, new opportunities. His report has already inspired many of us to efforts in new fields and to new efforts in old lines. It will greatly aid us in forming that public opinion which alone will make these newer forms of library work possible.

BOYS AND GIRLS AND BOOKS

A Film.

For Children's Book Week, Christmas and Year-Round Use.

"Boys and Girls and Books" is a film (of "still" pictures) prepared with the co-operation of the American Library Association and produced and distributed by the Bray Screen Products, Inc.

"Boys and Girls and Books" shows what books mean to boys and girls who are lucky enough to possess or have access to them. The series of 64 pictures and "titles" dramatizes the part books can play in the life of boys and girls in answering their questions, satisfying their love of romance and adventure, stimulating their imaginations, developing citizenship. It

shows how some libraries are carrying books by book wagons to remote farms and mountain districts. It includes pictures of story hours in parks and playgrounds, and before the open fire in the Children's room of the library; pictures of well equipped school libraries in action, and a series of charming pictures of French children in the libraries established during and since the war by the American Committee for Devastated France. It shows the role of the librarian, the teacher, the bookseller and the parent in making good books available to children in the library, in the school, in the home.

Price \$1.00. Order from Bray Screen Products, Inc., 130 West 46th Street, New York City.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

The sixth Children's Book Week was so generally observed throughout the state that space does not permit to give a full account of the programs carried out in all libraries, even if reports were available. For this issue of the bulletin, a summary of the various activities is given with accounts of special programs which have been reported. No doubt many places which are not mentioned had equally interesting celebrations and the editor would be glad to have reports of work done in other places, especially with notes on **results** which may be observed.

The effort to encourage better reading for children should be continuous throughout the year, and can best be accomplished by having an adequate supply of children's books, carefully chosen from recommended lists. The annual campaign to stimulate greater interest on the part of parents and teachers is worth while if it results in better books for children in the school, the library and the home, and in a wider recognition of the influence of children's reading on character development.

Exhibits

The St. Paul Public Library continued its exhibit throughout the month of November. Books were lent by the book shops of the Twin Cities and beautiful pieces of tapestry and Chinese embroidery, with brass bowls of bittersweet added color to the room. In addition to the books there was a beautiful toy circus made by a former patron of the children's room and some hand-made wooden toys made from designs found in

books on toycraft at the library. There were puppet shows every Saturday afternoon, including Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Three Wishes and Little Red Riding Hood, and an original puppet comedy, The Pirates and the Buttered Ship by a student at Central High School.

In Minneapolis the exhibit was held at the Art Institute in co-operation with the book dealers of the Twin Cities.

Exhibits of especial interest are reported at Fergus Falls, Grand Rapids, Moorhead, Paynesville, Rochester, Stillwater and Winona. At Rochester talks were given by the librarian at meetings of Parent-Teacher Associations and Kindergarten Mothers' Clubs in the grade schools and on one evening tea was served in the children's room and an informal talk was given by Miss Baldwin of the Library Division. At Eveleth, the exhibit also included a handicraft display of articles made by children. At Coleraine there was an exhibit at the library and the librarian spoke on children's books at a meeting of the Parent-Teachers Club, and distributed copies of the Boys' and Girls' Bookshelf. Books were also shown and a talk given at the Parent-Teachers Club at Bovey. In Dawson, through the co-operation of book dealers, there were attractive book displays in downtown windows as well as at the library. An exhibit of illustrated editions of the masterpieces for children in the library at Moorhead Teachers College proved of so much interest that it was continued through Education Week. Color and taste were added to the exhibit by the attractive posters prepared by the Art classes.

Successful exhibits were undertaken for the first time through the efforts of Women's Clubs at Cannon Falls, Fulda and Windom.

Projects

At Buhl, the children's librarian of the public library in co-operation with the school librarian organized a reading contest which continued for six weeks, closing with Children's Book Week. An examination was given and the school room having the highest average mark, also the individual whose paper was best, received appropriate recognition. In the High School, a vote was taken in the English classes on favorite books in fiction, non-fiction and favorite poems.

An essay contest was conducted among the grade children at Paynesville, and the best essays were read at a program arranged by the teachers and librarians.

At Coleraine, there was a poster contest in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades, with an exhibit of the posters in the library the first of the week. The posters were used later around town.

The grade children of Calumet and Marble took part in a poster contest, for which prizes of books were given.

In Fergus Falls, a competition for book marks made by the grade children was held, the winning grades each receiving a book as a prize. The exhibit was of high quality and the children deserve great credit for the originality and neatness of their work.

Special Programs

Buhl. The Girl Scouts, under the direction of Miss Leavitt, school librarian, took part in a book pageant, and the play Alice in Authorland was given under the direction of Miss Barnes, children's librarian. The program was given twice at the library, at Kinney night school, Buhl night school and at the Buhl Woman's Club.

Cannon Falls. The Tuesday Club of Cannon Falls held an open meeting at the school, when a talk was given by Miss Baldwin of the Library Division, and an exhibit of books was shown. The exhibit was afterwards placed in a downtown store window.

Coleraine. The Junior Girl Scouts gave a dramatization of Snow White and the Seven Little Dwarfs on Saturday in the Library Club Rooms.

Crosby. The teachers, children and women's clubs co-operated in making Children's Book Week a success. Children from the 3rd to 6th grades of all the schools competed for prizes offered by the Friday Study Club, Mothers' Club and Child Interest Club for the best essay and best poster. The prizes were beautifully illustrated books, one prize for each grade. The Friday Study Club held an open meeting at the library room for club women, teachers and parents.

Dawson. In addition to the book exhibit noted above, there was an animated dramatization of Mother Goose Rhymes by 1st graders in costume, and on another afternoon a story hour for little children. To add to the children's book fund a tea was

given at the Legion club rooms, Miss Trotter, the librarian and a group of club women acting as hostesses. The moving picture theater arranged a special program during the week.

Duluth. The Children's Book Week program is well organized at Duluth through a committee under the general chairmanship of the librarian, with representatives from the schools, Boy and Girl Scouts, Boys' Department, Y. M. C. A., and the book stores. Exhibits are held at the main library and at each branch. A special program of story hours, etc., was arranged for each day. In the schools children in the penmanship classes wrote invitations to their parents to attend the exhibits and children in the art classes made books which were on display. The film, Boys and Girls and Books, recommended by the A. L. A., was shown each afternoon in the book shop of the Glass Block. Talks were given by the librarian and assistants at Parent-Teacher Associations.

Ely. The Mothers' Club met at the library during Children's Book Week. The program was in charge of Miss Mabel Franklin, school librarian, and Mrs. Ruth King, librarian at the Community Center.

Faribault. The "Three-foot bookshelf for boys and girls" which was selected by this library last year for use during Children's Book Week was sent for by librarians in Oklahoma, Georgia and Florida. This year there was a display of books in a downtown window and at the library, a slide shown at the moving picture theater calling attention to them, annotated lists appearing in the paper every night during the week. Copies of the Bookshelf for Boys and Girls were mailed to the schools and to interested parents and letters were sent to the Parent-Teacher Associations to be read at their meetings during the week.

Hibbing. Under the general direction of Miss Beatrice Finn, school librarian, with the co-operation of teachers and pupils in every department, a program was carried out in all the schools. All the children from grades 1-5 were brought to the public library for a canvass of membership and to get acquainted with the public library. Appropriate movies which had been arranged for last spring were shown in the auditorium of the High School and Lincoln Junior High School, at noon each day.

Nearly 2,000 children from the lower grades were present at the several performances when Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Bean Stalk and Alice in Wonderland were greeted with delight. At the High School assembly, Miss Clark of the library bus gave an informal talk on good literature. The High School dramatic club put on The House of Good Literature, a one-act skit, enlarged from a dialogue of that title. Contests were planned for each grade from the second through the Junior College, awards being given by the school library to the successful contestants. A full account of the contests, with reports of the results obtained, will be given in a later issue of Library Notes and News.

Pine Island. Through loan collections from the Hunting Co., the Koehler Book Store in Red Wing, the Library Division and 25 illustrated gift books from members of the Progress Club, the Children's Book Week exhibit was larger and better than ever before. On Saturday before Book Week, when the stores were crowded, the Dutch twins in full costume went into every store on Main Street and talked Book Week. They had posters on their backs advertising the program at the library. The Progress Club offered a prize of a book to the High School student making the best poster, advertising the Friday evening book program. Fourteen posters were made and a Sophomore girl received as a prize the large illustrated edition of Dumas' Three Musketeers. The program consisted of a very fine ethical talk on books for children by Miss Maud van Buren, librarian of the Owatonna Public Library, and the following pageants given by the grade school children under the direction of their teachers: 1st Grade, Finger plays from Poulsson; 2nd and 3rd Grades, Four groups, one each for: Lucia, Peter and Polly in winter, in spring, in summer and autumn; 4th Grade, Snedden—Docas, the Indian boy, Warren—Little pioneers, Dickens—Christmas carol; 5th and 6th Grades, Browning—Pied Piper of Hamelin; 7th Grade, Poe—Three Sundays in a week; 8th Grade, Spyri—Heidi. The booklists issued by the A. L. A. were distributed and the librarian gave a short talk on the value of these lists and how to use them. After the program the large audience, over 200, enjoyed looking over the book exhibits and

the Library Committee of the Progress Club served hot chocolate and wafers to all.

Windom. The Tourist Club held an open meeting at the library room, invited the other club and extended a general invitation through the papers and pulpits to mothers and any one who was interested. Three fine papers on the Value of Good Books in the Home; Writers who have interpreted Childhood and Youth and Six Immortals and Their Stories were read. A creditable display of children's books included about 40 new ones and some of the best in the children's collection.

HOSPITAL LIBRARIANS' MEETINGS

The Hospital Librarians of the Twin Cities have started a series of Luncheon Meetings to be held on the last Saturday of each month. It is hoped that these informal meetings will help solve some of the questions coming up in this work, as well as stimulate the interest in this highly specialized branch of library service. All librarians throughout the state, who are interested in developing the work, are most cordially invited to attend these meetings. The full particulars of time and place may be obtained from Mrs. E. B. Bailey, Minneapolis Public Library, or Miss Perrie Jones, St. Paul Public Library.

The December meeting will be omitted and a meeting will be held on January 10 when reports of the Hospital Librarians' Round Table at Chicago will be given.

ADVANCED LIBRARY COURSES

Announcement has been received from the library school of the New York Public Library of a group of advanced courses to be offered between February 9th and June 6th.

Admission in general is to librarians with "an equipment equivalent in knowledge of library practices and tools to that possessed by a graduate of a one-year library school." Courses will be given in the following subjects: Advanced Library Administration, Advanced Book Selection, Art and the Book, Children's Literature, Literature of History and Geography, School Library Work, and Special Library Work. Fees are \$5.00 a course of twelve lectures. Persons interested should address Alice G. Higgins, Supervisor of Advanced Courses.

FOR SALE

Century (bound) v.28-57.

Hume, David—History of England.

Morris, Charles ed. Great republic by Master Historians, 4v.

Rawlinson—Ancient monarchy, 6v.

Tarbell, Ida M., Life of Lincoln, 6v.

Black, William—Complete set.

Bryant, W. C., Popular history of U. S., v. 2, 3, 4.

Stillwater Public Library,

GERTRUDE GLENNON, Librarian.

Larned History for ready reference (Old edition).

Owatonna Public Library,

MAUD VAN BUREN, Librarian.

LIBRARIANS

Miss Caroline C. Shaw of the School Division, St. Paul Public Library, was married on November 26th to Mr. Frederick William Krell of St. Paul.

Miss Marion Lambert, who has had charge of the library work in industrial houses carried on by the Branch Department of the St. Paul Public Library, left November 20th to become Children's Librarian in the Carnegie Public Library of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Miss Katharine Patten, librarian of the Minneapolis Athenaeum, made a visit to New York to attend an auction sale of a library of rare ornithological works.

Miss Beatrice Wightman has returned to the staff of the Minneapolis Public Library. Her time will be divided between the school department and the circulation department.

Miss Ethel Binney, school librarian at Gilbert, is attending the Illinois Library School.

Miss Ada Liddell, who has been assistant in the Historical Society Library, has joined the staff of the Duluth Public Library as assistant in the children's room.

Mrs. Helen Pederson is librarian at Glenwood, succeeding Mrs. Frances Lemcke, resigned.

Miss Mabel Birkett has been elected librarian at Luverne to succeed Mrs. D. E. Halbert, who resigned after 22 years of service.

Miss Beda Erickson, formerly librarian at the Edison School, Minneapolis, is school librarian at South St. Paul.

NEWS FROM PUBLIC LIBRARIES

NOTE—Items of news for this column are solicited from all libraries in the state. These should be real news items, indicating some progress, or new plan which may be suggestive to other libraries. Notes should be sent to the Director of Libraries by the 15th of the month preceding each issue of the bulletin, which appears quarterly in March, June, September and December.

Akeley. The public library has been removed to a new location in the rear rooms of a drug store, where it is open two afternoons and evenings each week. \$50 was collected on tag day for the purchase of books.

Anoka. An exhibit of paintings loaned by the State Art Society was held in the library the last week in October. A lecture on appreciation of art by Mr. F. B. Martin of the Art Society was well attended, and the interest throughout the week was gratifying.

The ladies of the P. E. O. presented \$20 worth of children's books to the library.

The librarian secured from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a library of 51 books constituting the "International mind alcove."

Austin. The council increased the library budget to \$7,500, an increase of \$2,500, which will provide for redecorating the building.

A book club to study children's books has been organized by some of the teachers.

The Parent-Teacher Associations of the city plan to have a book corner on child training, each club presenting the library with a book on the subject.

Buffalo. The library board gave a reception to the teachers at the opening of the school year, in order to promote acquaintance and a knowledge of the resources of the library. A talk was given by Miss Clara Oakley, librarian, with a response by Supt. Andrews.

Chatfield. A New England exhibit held at the library in October was unusual in its interest and educational value. It consisted of industrial products of every day use displayed by the local stores and antiques brought from the New England states to Chatfield by its early settlers. In the latter collection were articles of wearing apparel, furniture, household utensils and old school books ranging in age from 70 to 200 years, and old papers and receipted bills of the early 19th century. Photographs and postcards and a case of 200 books completed the exhibit. The

children of the grade school came on Friday afternoon with their teachers, the general public in the evening and Saturday morning the district schools were invited.

Duluth. An exhibit of paintings by Knute Heldner was held at the library for two weeks in October. A large number of the pictures are of scenes in northern Minnesota.

The library budget for the next year was increased to \$75,847, the full amount requested. This will include \$10,000 for new books, \$5,000 for replacements, two new assistants and an automobile truck for book deliveries.

Eveleth. An interesting exhibit on the making of a book, lent by the Frederic A. Stokes Co., was shown at the library in October.

Faribault. The library had a display of books and magazines in a downtown window on Open House Night, Oct. 1. The slogan was "Everything to read—Nothing to pay," to match that of the merchants, which was "Everything to see—Nothing to sell."

An annotated list of magazines in the paper brought one mother in from the country who decided to buy John Martin's Book for her family, because she can so seldom come to town to secure books for them.

Fergus Falls. The winter season has opened with a rush of activities. Clubs, colleges, schools are all contributing their quotas of work. The library staff are busy constantly during the working hours. Holidays are restricted. Christmas, New Year's, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Thanksgiving being the only ones observed at the Library.

Glenwood. The receipts from library tag day amounted to \$45, which will be used for purchase of children's books.

Grand Rapids. Greater use of the extension service is being made this year. There are 117 traveling library stations, largely in rural schools, and ten other communities in which individuals act as librarians.

A gift of \$50 worth of new books for children was received from the Grand Rapids Woman's Club.

Granite Falls. The library building has been painted this year, a cement sidewalk laid and the grounds improved with trees and shrubs.

Hibbing. The men's reading room recently opened in South Hibbing had a patronage of 3,000 readers during the month of October, and eleven different organizations used the club rooms.

Hutchinson. An excellent entertainment course of five numbers has been arranged by the library board.

Mankato. The school contract for service closed in August, but the public library has re-opened the stations in three outlying schools, and has distributed the books for the grades to the four grade schools.

Mapleton. The public library had a booth at the harvest festival in September which was very successful. Clusters of mountain ash berries and bowls of dark red dahlias made an effective decoration and the Children's Book Week posters and others were used on the back wall, with book jackets and posters on the sides. Books from the library were arranged in groups on the shelves at the back of the booth and on one side a rug with small bookcase and table and chairs completed the furnishings.

Minneapolis. The library board received a levy of 1.35 mills which on account of increased valuation will produce \$410,000 for 1925 as compared with \$385,002 for 1924.

Out of 1,500 children who enrolled for vacation reading, 197 completed their work and received "vacation honor reading" certificates.

Recent gifts of importance are the musical library of the late Mrs. C. M. Loring from the Thursday Musical and a collection of 300 war time photographs from the late C. J. Hibbard.

Minneapolis-University of Minnesota. The new library of the University of Minnesota was dedicated on the evening of October 31st. Dr. William Watts Folwell, president-emeritus and first president and librarian of the University, presided. The principal address, "Learning and Education," was given by Dean Frederick J. E. Woodbridge of Columbia University and former head of the Department of Philosophy at Minnesota. President Fred B. Snyder of the Board of Regents made the formal presentation. President Lotus D. Coffman of the University gave the address of acceptance, and Frank K. Walter, University Librarian, responded on behalf of the library staff. James Thayer Gerould,

librarian of Princeton University and University librarian at Minnesota 1906-20, delivered an address on "The Function of the Library in the University."

Olivia. At a recent library board meeting book reviews and sketches of various authors were given by members of the board.

Owatonna. The Beethoven Musical Association, which disbanded 25 years ago, left a fund of \$188.12 which has now increased to \$639. This sum has been turned over to the library to be used for purchase of musical books.

The first staff luncheon of the autumn was held October 31, with all members of the board present. Miss Baldwin of the Library Division and Miss Schmidt, high school librarian, gave reports of the A. L. A. Conference. Three librarians from Austin were present and Mrs. Hines, the librarian, told of developments there.

The appropriation for next year has been increased to \$5,700, \$500 more than last year.

Robbinsdale. A new library building is to be built on the site of the present structure. Part of the cost will be met by the county library budget and the rest will be raised locally. A community celebration for the benefit of the fund was staged by the Parent-Teacher Association in November.

Rochester. The library fund was the only item in the city budget to receive an outstanding increase. The amount is \$14,025—just what the library board asked for. The fund, representing an increase of more than \$7,000 over that granted in 1923, will make possible some improvements and renovations in the library building and the addition of a trained children's librarian to the staff.

St. Paul. The St. Paul Public Library had a most interesting exhibit of travel books, ship models and foreign posters during the month of October. Travel movies and talks by world travelers on the Orient, South America and Europe were given.

The Fine Arts Department of the St. Paul Public Library is to be enriched by the gift of the excellent music library of the late Professor Eugene Murdock. The collection comprises nearly a thousand works on the literature of music as well as the music itself.

The St. Paul Public Library has recently been the recipient of several noteworthy gifts. The largest of these is the George Thompson Collection of about 2,700 volumes, all in good condition. The titles are largely non-fiction and standard. The books will form a valuable addition to both circulation and reference departments.

The collection of William B. Dean of about 800 volumes has also been a source of new material to the library. These titles are of great interest historically and are of special value to the reference department in developing a local history collection. There were also a goodly number of European photographs donated to the Art department of the library at the same time.

South St. Paul. A glass hive full of live bees in our Library window attracted crowds of people. With a little help the children soon learned to distinguish the queen bee and then proudly pointed her out to unenlightened "grown ups." With the hive were the volumes and government documents on bees and honey from the Library collection. They, too, were popular.

Another window exhibit was based on the large poster, "The Road to Wellville," which was procured at the American Child Health Association, 532 Seventh Street N. W., Washington, D. C. It shows the stages along the health road such as Long Sleep Mountain, Apple Sauceville, etc., in a most attractive way. Below this poster, which was pasted on the glass of the window, were books on child health in Roumanian, Bohemian, and Swedish languages as well as in English.

Thief River Falls. The library board took charge of the program at the meeting of the Woman's Club, November 17. Mrs. Zeh, president of the board, gave a short talk on the library, displaying some new books of practical value and general interest. Miss Baldwin of the Library Division spoke on The Educational Service of the Library. Miss Baldwin was entertained by the library board at luncheon and also held a conference with them in the evening.

Wadena. As a result of the contract between the library board and school board calling for additional library service to the school, the library is now open every afternoon. The schedule for the grades and instruction given is described in an article by Miss Stewart on page 253.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT

MINNESOTA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Library Section.

The sixth annual meeting of the Division of Public School Librarians, Department of Professional Education of Teachers of the Minnesota Education Association, was held Friday, November 7, in the library of Central High School, St. Paul.

A short business session was held Friday morning. The meeting was called to order by the president, Miss Margaret Greer. It was moved, seconded and approved that the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, already in print, be omitted. The following committees were appointed:

Nominations: Miss Blanche Spooner, Miss Margaret McCandless, Miss Constance M. Logue.

Resolutions: Miss Lois C. Davidson, Miss Edith Grannis, Miss Caroline Branae.

Instead of the roll call of individual librarians, representatives of various sections of the state brought news from the field. These reports show strongly the growth of library consciousness throughout the state. Notable work is being done in teaching the use of the library to high school and grade pupils by the librarians themselves, and our teachers' colleges and university are sending out students as teachers, who will carry on this work with their pupils. The following responded: Miss Helen Farr for the Northern, Miss Edith Grannis for the Central, Miss Lois

Fawcett for the Southwest, Mrs. Claude Perkins for the Southeast, Miss Minnie Leavitt for the Northwest, Miss Caroline Branae for the Western, Miss Logue for the Northeast, and Miss Alma Penrose for Minneapolis and St. Paul. There are now two School Library Sections at the Division meetings, for the Southeast is organized as well as the Northeast. Miss Harriet A. Wood gave interesting data for the state as a whole: state aid, expenditure for books, number of librarians, certification of librarians, equipment of the library room, and spoke of the revised high school list soon to be published.

Miss Georgina Lommen of Teachers' College, Moorhead, gave a valuable talk on Literature in the Elementary School from the Teacher's Viewpoint. She pointed out that while the library has been of service to the teacher, the teacher has also been helpful to the librarian. Teachers have been instrumental in creating a social attitude on the part of the child towards reading—the child bringing a willingness and eagerness to read—have given the child the equipment in the mechanical skill necessary, and have created a growing consideration for a purposeful attack upon the appreciation of literature.

The Study Hour and the Library was discussed by Miss Constance M. Logue of Coleraine, Miss Beatryce Finn of Hibbing, and Miss Elizabeth Scripture of Marshall High, Minneapolis. Miss Logue has the library-study hall combination, where the children have the advantage of being constantly "exposed to books." Miss Finn's library directly adjoins the study hall, thereby making needed information readily accessible to pupils. Miss Scripture discussed supervised study and its relation to the library.

An informal discussion of library problems then followed. Miss Wood explained what credit would be given by the State Department to pupils taking library work in the schools.

The afternoon session opened with the report of the resolutions and nomination committees. The following officers were elected:

President: Beatryce Finn, School Librarian, Hibbing.

Vice-President: Mabel Lyons, School Librarian, Eveleth.

Secretary: Ethel Sauer, School Librarian, Two Harbors.

Miss Harriet Beale, Teachers' College, Mankato, in discussing Poetry for Children, said that the school tends to develop the practical and subdue the poetic. The ideal is the union of the practical and the poetic. In school and library, we need aids to keep alive the poetic. Poetry should be an aid to our life experience and enhancement—to give us a finer realization of our own environment, and to increase the value of life for ourselves and others.

"We can travel the world for a postcard and a street car fare," said Miss Anna Dickson, in discussing The pleasures and pitfalls of home reading. The danger is that we may travel too far and go head first, become miserly, expect too much, not buy books, and grow content to handle shabby books. Home reading also gives us the delight of variety, but with the danger that we may grow satisfied with dabbling. For the pleasure of refreshment there is the pitfall of intemperance; of inspiration, the danger that it may lead us into a fool's paradise.

The last speaker of the afternoon was Mr. Charles Edward Russell of New York City, who gave us an arresting talk on the Colonial Spirit in Recent American Literature. He pointed out that we have gone back to colonial times in our attitude towards literature, that we have a perfect rage for imitation of another country. We have developed different modes of living as a result of our climate, and mixed origin. How shall we express them if we adhere to the colonial conception—to imitate. Nothing requisite of life comes out of a colony. Admiration of another people will not produce literature. We must seek to express our own conditions. Until we have a national spirit in literature, we shall never have a just expression of the American mind or the American life.

The informal luncheon at noon was attended by a large number of librarians. Special mention should be made of the exceptionally helpful and instructive exhibit of library projects which had been gathered by Miss Elizabeth Robinson, School Division, St. Paul.

AUGUSTA BJELDANES,

Secretary (pro tem.)

RANGE SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

The October meeting of the Range School Librarians was held in connection with the N. E. M. E. A. October 10, at Hibbing, Minn.

A luncheon was served to thirty-two people interested in libraries, at noon at the Androy Hotel.

About sixty attended the meeting in the afternoon.

Miss Martha Wilson, of the Lincoln Library of Springfield, Illinois, spoke on Library aids for English departments.

She suggested printing poems for class room use, making bibliographies for books. The library should be a clearing house for English teachers. Leona Cross West of the High School Library, Cleveland, has a good bibliography for teachers.

In regard to the home reading lists, she said there were many very good ones, but mentioned particularly the California list and the National English Council list. One must be careful, though, about "out-of-print" books on these lists.

The list should include tested titles, but one shouldn't hesitate to disregard old books. The home reading should teach pupils to recognize good books. Three-fourths of the contemporary literature is really temporary.

Miss Wilson stressed the point of illustrative material and correlation of the English department and library with the art and printing departments. She showed some rhyme sheets which she had brought from England.

Miss Della McGregor, children's librarian of the Public Library, St. Paul, spoke on Children's Book Week and its possibilities.

She said that the week was for the purpose of achieving intensive and constructive work along library ideals. It should give new and closer contacts with the book reading public and raise the standard of reading. One should interest just as many people as possible in this.

There were many ways of doing this. She spoke of her own experiences in using the motion picture. One might have a book pageant or give a costume prize. A history of book making could be given. The art department could be interested in making posters and book plates.

Having the Americanization classes in for tea would establish a lasting interest in the library.

Book stores are usually interested but one must watch or they would attempt to sell old stock or books not approved by children's librarians.

At the business meeting which followed Miss McGregor's talk, Miss Constance Logue of Coleraine was elected president, Miss Helen Arper, Hibbing, vice-president, Miss Florence Vest, Hibbing, secretary-treasurer.

Miss Finn read the report of the certification committee and the resolutions adopted by the M. L. A. at its September, 1924 meeting.

The M. L. A. resolution, which recommended that legislation be sought to provide for certification of school librarians was discussed and endorsed.

It was voted that the resolutions committee of the library section of the N. E. M. E. A. express our thanks to certification and resolutions committees of the M. L. A. for interesting themselves in this matter and that we accept the report of the certification committee of the M. L. A. and the resolution of the resolutions committee of the M. L. A. and that copies of them as well as this resolution, be spread upon the records of this organization.

Miss Leavitt invited the School Librarians to meet in Buhl in January, 1925.

After the business meeting, Miss Wilson conducted a most interesting round table, discussing the necessity of keeping our standards high and having English penetrate through the pupils' minds, recommending library instruction where the librarian gives the technical instruction and the teacher teaches appreciation. She spoke of how the Certain report had aided many school libraries to raise their standards. An interesting thing was the description of Springfield's Friends of Reading Club. The Girls' High School, Brooklyn, N. Y., keeps an interesting catalog, writing short book reviews on cards. Miss Wilson recommended:

1. Fugitive material for teaching—Price, Oakland, Calif.
2. A. L. A. High School list of books.
3. Barrett—What use of the library does to children.

We are deeply indebted to Miss McGregor for bringing a display of Children's books from the Kilmarnock Book Store, St. Paul, which we found very interesting.

The School Library had an exhibit of suggestions for Children's Book Week.

BEATRYCE A. FINN,
Secretary.

NEWS FROM SCHOOL LIBRARIES

(Items for this column are urgently requested from all school libraries and public libraries doing school work. Pass on your ideas).

Baudette. The school library has been put in order. It will probably be open four nights a week to all high school and upper grade boys.

Belgrade. All books taken out by pupils must be taken home as no novel reading is allowed in the assembly room.

Duluth. Miss Ruth Ely, librarian at the Duluth State Teachers' College, is giving a one-term library course with a 45-minute period each day to a group of 3rd year students.

Elmore. A new arrangement for use of our library has proven so popular that we are not quite able to meet the growing demand for its use because of the limited space. The library can seat but seven pupils and the demand has been double that number each day. The library is open four periods during the day when the books are used for reference work. Books to be taken out for use at home are loaned out from 4 o'clock until four-thirty.

Faribault. In September, according to Miss Magahay, school librarian, 313 books were borrowed to be taken home—all of these being, of course, in addition to the 2,276 circulated during the school hours. Besides these 181 reference books were called for and used by students during the school day for collateral reading. And in addition to even all these there were constant calls for 23 sets of clippings on current topics which the boys and girls are studying for debates or special class reports. Among the subjects for which they request the special clipped material are the Ku Klux Klan and the prohibition question. Boys and girls showed their curiosity to learn by asking a good many such questions, most of them not even being on subjects assigned them by their instructors.

One pupil wanted a sketch of the history of the Constitution and another one desired to know if Harvard was co-educational. Still another student felt in need of a picture of the "Bridge of Sighs"—and where could one find a better bureau of information than the high school librarian? Perhaps it was his studies in history that aroused in one pupil's mind a curiosity to know what are the characteristics of the Anglo-Saxons. So he straightaway asked about them with an earnestness that brooked no postponement in a request to know what political reforms followed the Danish invasion in England.

At the Rice County Institute, Miss Kristin Nilsson conducted the Library instruction.

"Since we are constantly reading" said Miss Nilsson in her library talk, "it is preferable that we very early in life become effective readers. To be an effective reader is a great accomplishment." Five steps are included in the process of achieving this, she pointed out, and, in their order are first, to master the mechanics of reading; second, to comprehend the words; third, to read rapidly; fourth, to know how to use the tools of reading such as the guide books, the dictionary and the like; and fifth, to learn to love reading.

Lakeville. The school library at Lakeville has been entirely reorganized this year. Superintendent Ireland recognizes the library as an integral part of the school system and has therefore interested himself in organizing the Lakeville library for more efficient service. A room on the main floor of the school building has been equipped with suitable shelving and the books, which had been kept in the superintendent's office, removed to it. A reading table has been placed in the new building and a desk for the librarian and half a dozen chairs purchased to complete the equipment.

The work of reorganization was in charge of Miss Brunius, school librarian, who was aided by an organizer from the Library Division and by two student assistants. All worn out and out of date books were discarded and many others mended. The books were then accessioned, classified, shelf-listed and marked according to the recommendations in the Minnesota school library lists.

It is hoped that townspeople, as well as pupils, will benefit by the more efficient arrangement of the library for it is open to all. If a sufficient interest is shown by members of the community, the adult collection will be supplemented by traveling libraries borrowed from the Minnesota Free Traveling Library.

Little Falls. Mrs. Jenny Lind Blanchard, librarian, conducted a school of instruction in library methods at the library one Saturday for the superintendents and teachers of the Swanville and Burtrum public schools. The instruction was arranged for by the state department.

New Ulm. A valuable addition has been made to the New Ulm high school library through the generosity and public spirit of County Attorney T. O. Streissguth, who presented a total of 109 substantially bound volumes of Harper's Magazine, the Century Magazine and Harper's Weekly to this department of the public schools.

These highly interesting books will be used for reference by the high school pupils. The volumes of Harper's Magazine are of special value, due to the fact that they cover the Civil war period and form a fascinating current historical resume of that memorable conflict.

The New Ulm School Library has doubled its size by annexing a large room that will be used by the grade children.

Proctor. An interesting and varied program marked the opening of the new library in the Summit junior high school Nov 15. The program, which was under the auspices of the West side branch of the Parent-Teachers' association was held in the kindergarten and first grade rooms.

The library was open for inspection and the people took advantage of the opportunity to look over the books on display. Special efforts will be made to secure books appropriate to the pupils of the first to the eighth grades. A total of more than \$275 was the result of one day of tagging for the library.

The day was marked by a short parade of decorated cars and floats. The float from the new school attracted the most attention. Every room in the school went over the top in the subscriptions, each room buying a tag for every child. As a result each room had a representative in one of the cars.

The movement was started at a Parent-Teachers' association meeting, and was conducted by a committee under the chairmanship of Miss Eliza Remfry, school librarian. Mrs. H. W. Dart, acted as general captain of the solicitors, with a large number of helpers.

Rochester. The high school library had an exhibit from October 1 to 5, with posters illustrating the actual process in the "Making of a Book." The book on display was Louise Lamprey's "Days of the Pioneers." This exhibit was of interest to all high school students, and especially to the ninth grade, as it illustrated the first lesson in the use of the library. This exhibit is loaned by the Frederick A. Stokes Co., New York, to libraries and schools.

St. Cloud. St. Cloud school library has moved into spacious new quarters which accommodate fifty-five reference seekers. Frequent issues of the school paper brings to our desk news of its activities. Mrs. Ethelyn Harrison the new librarian is giving library instruction and the students are co-operating splendidly.

The school authorities have decided to use the open book shelf method, which permits the students to find books themselves instead of having them on closed shelves to which only the librarian may go. This plan was adopted only after much hesitation, but at last it was decided that the students of the Tech are responsible and honorable enough not to abuse the privilege. The librarian is in the library to give any assistance that is needed. If at any time it is found that further reference matter than that in our own library is needed, every effort will be made to add this to the already large number of books listed in the library or to borrow it from some other library.

A remarkable collection of books has been given to the Technical High School Library by Mrs. W. L. Beebe. This collection contains about 65 volumes. The books cover a wide variety of subjects but are principally on subjects of interest to English and History students.

There is one set in particular in this wonderful collection which the Tech was extremely fortunate to obtain. This is a set of 18 volumes entitled "The Drama," edited by Alfred Bates, M. A. of Cambridge, England and put out by the Athenian Society of Cambridge.

St. Paul. The St Paul Division of the Minnesota Educational Association has again made a gift of money for books for the Teachers' Collection. This enables the department to buy the most outstanding of recent titles, and is especially appreciated as evidence of the teachers' interest in the collection and the service.

The seventeen school branches were closed for six weeks, beginning September 1st, for lack of funds, but a prompt and active protest on the part of the teachers and the Parent-Teachers' Associations in the several school districts helped to bring about a reopening on October 13th. Since that time they have been as active as ever. 649 books circulated at the Lincoln School on November 14th is the largest single day's issue so far this year.

Stillwater. Miss Gertrude Glennon, librarian, was the principal speaker at the session of the Rural Teachers' Institute Oct. 7, speaking on the organization of school libraries in one room country schools, stressing the classification and selection of books for such a library.

Miss Glennon and Miss Hazel Belisle, teacher at the Curtis school, No. 52, escorted about 30 of the rural teachers to the Curtis school where a model library is in constant use by not only the school but the entire community.

Two Harbors. Two Harbors school library welcomes its fine new quarters as the collection had altogether outgrown the old room. Now there is ample space for students as well as books and Miss Ethel Sauer, school librarian, is to be congratulated. As usual Book Week was celebrated throughout the school system, even to the rural schools which gave book talks and plays, and made posters with as much zeal as their city cousins.

Waverly. St. Mary's school is surely taking long strides toward success. Since the opening of school in September, the pupils have bent their efforts in united action toward the building up of a library in their school.

Beginning the work the first week of this school term, they have conducted numerous activities for this purpose with a fair degree of success.

When the library is completed, the privilege of borrowing books will be extended to every citizen, without discrimination, on condition that the small fee of one dollar be paid.

Besides purchasing new books, the pupils have by their own labor, furnished and equipped a reading room.

PARENT-TEACHERS' CONVENTION

Interest in books and libraries was evident at the state meeting of the Parent-Teachers' Association at Duluth. Library work was represented by the report of the Home Education committee, Harriet A. Wood, chairman, and by a valuable exhibit presided over most ably by Miss Myra Buell, who is in charge of county work in Ramsey county.

VISITS

Burtrum, Crookston, Dassel, Donaldson, Duluth, Halstad, Hancock, Little Falls, Lockhart, Medford, Owatonna, Plummer, Rochester, Stephen, Swanville and Thief River Falls have been visited by the Supervisor of School Libraries and in most cases assistance has been given in actual organizing. Requests for other visits will be met as rapidly as possible.

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